



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## *Department of Emergency Management*

MICHAEL M. CLINE  
State Coordinator

JANET L. CLEMENTS  
Deputy Coordinator

10501 Trade Court  
Richmond, Virginia 23236-3713  
(804) 897-6500  
(TDD) 674-2417  
FAX (804) 897-6506

Disaster Field Office  
603 E. Main St. • Lebanon, VA 24266  
FEMA-1525-DR-VA  
***Commonwealth Situation Report #10***  
***Thursday, July 8, 2004***

### **1. Situation**

- A system of severe storms began moving through Southwest Virginia on May 24, 2004. Flash flooding occurred on May 24-25 in Tazewell and Russell counties. Tornadoes damaged homes in Lee County on May 28. Flash floods impacted Buchanan County and several other counties in Southwest Virginia over the June 12-15 period. One flood-damaged road, Route 772 in Russell County, remains closed.
- On May 25 Governor Warner declared a State of Emergency for Tazewell and Russell Counties and on June 3 expanded the declaration to include Lee County.
- On June 2, Governor Warner requested that President Bush issue a major disaster declaration for Lee, Russell and Tazewell counties. He requested federal aid through the Individual Assistance and Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs.
- President Bush granted a Federal Disaster Declaration for Lee, Russell and Tazewell counties on June 15, 2004. The Commonwealth's request to add Buchanan County was approved June 29.
- On June 25, 2004, Governor Warner signed the FEMA-Commonwealth Agreement to implement joint recovery programs.
- The incident period began on May 24 and ended June 26, 2004.

### **2. Weather Forecast for Buchanan, Russell and Tazewell Counties**

*Today through Saturday - Partly cloudy with 20 percent chance of scattered showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower to mid 80s, lows in the 60s. West winds up to 10 mph. No significant weather changes expected through Monday July 12.*

### **3. Current State/Federal Priorities and Objectives**

- ☐ Implement Commonwealth Emergency Relief to Localities (CERL) Program.
- ☐ Notify affected citizens and communities of the availability of federal disaster assistance.
- ☐ Address potential housing and rental resources issues.
- ☐ Implement the Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- ☐ Manage public expectations through targeted media releases and contacts with public officials.
- ☐ Implement Other Needs Assistance (ONA) Program.
- ☐ ***Close Disaster Recovery Center at 1 pm Saturday July 10, 2004.***
- ☐ ***Begin preparation for Disaster Field Office closure.***

“Working to Protect People, Property and Our Communities”

#### 4. Recovery Activities

##### A. Human Services

###### □ Individual and Household Program

- Housing Assistance (HA)
  - *As a result of an inquiry to the West Virginia State IAO regarding replacement housing, it was found that their success on the replacement housing issue with FEMA is due to the fact that authorities use a condemnation process.*
- See pages 4 and 5 for statistical information on registrations, **Housing Assistance**, **Other Needs Assistance**, Small Business Administration (SBA), and the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC).

###### □ Volunteer Organizations

- Representatives of the Mennonite Disaster Services visited the disaster area and have offered to evaluate washed-out private bridges brought to their attention by the FEMA VAL to determine if they could provide the labor to rebuild. A situation investigated in Russell County proved inappropriate for their services.
- *Information is being conveyed to Mennonite Disaster Services for evaluation regarding a possible private bridge repair in Buchanan County.*

###### □ Disaster Recovery Center

- The local recovery task forces in Russell and Tazewell Counties are assisting as requested, and have representatives in the DRC to meet with individuals.
- The DRC is scheduled to close at 1:00 pm, Saturday, July 10, 2004.

###### □ Donations Management

- Tazewell and Russell Counties are coordinating distribution of donated goods.
- Clinch Valley Community Action (CVCA) is continuing to provide disaster relief to all local counties. The telephone number for assistance is 276-988-5583. Applicants must continue to be referred by FEMA, American Red Cross or VDEM to be eligible.

###### □ Disaster Unemployment Assistance

- Effective June 18, 2004, assistance is available for residents of the declared jurisdictions. Residents can call or visit the nearest Virginia Employment Office. As of **7/07/04** no applications have been received for DUA.

###### □ Mental Health

- The Cumberland Mountain Community Services Board is providing mental health assistance for residents of Tazewell, Russell and Buchanan Counties. Applicants needing mental health assistance are being provided the local telephone numbers to call for service.

##### B. Community Relations (CR)

- *One CR Team is distributing closeout information to Russell, Tazewell and Buchanan Counties. Continue contacts with local officials and responding to their concerns.*
- *Field activities are being phased down and expect completion by July 9. All CR staff officers will be released by COB July 10.*

Updated Information is **bold** and *italicized*.

### C. Mitigation

- ❑ Development of Bluefield Mitigation Success Stories has progressed:
  - FEMA Mitigation Officer and External Affairs FEMA officer along with the Commonwealth PIO toured Bluefield on July 1 and met with local business owners involved in mitigation in the “old town” business district. The visit supplemented previous information gathered to support development of the success stories.

### D. Legislative Liaison

- ❑ *State legislative liaison staff continues to advise appropriate Congressional and state legislative representatives of the designated counties.*

### E. Hazardous Materials

- ❑ Regional Hazardous Materials Officer is continuing to monitor situations in the area.

### F. Public Affairs

- ❑ *Sent out “Disaster Assistance Reaches \$1 Million” and “Disaster Recovery Center to Close at 1pm Saturday” news releases.*
- ❑ Responded to routine media calls.

### G. Disaster Recovery Task Forces

- ❑ *Russell County Recovery Task Force is scheduled to meet July 13.*
- ❑ *The State Coordinator for Local Recovery Task Forces has left the DFO.*

### H. Miscellaneous Actions:

- ❑ VDH (Health) and DEQ (Environmental Quality) in Russell and Tazewell Counties continue to assist citizens with evaluating drinking water safety.
- ❑ Tetanus vaccinations remain available from the local health departments.

### I. State Coordinating Officer

- ❑ Staffing adjustments continue, 9 state personnel assigned to recovery activities.
- ❑ Next Commonwealth sit-rep will be ***Tuesday, July13***, and Tuesdays and Thursdays thereafter.
- ❑ Daily contact with local Emergency Management Coordinators and other local officials.
- ❑ ***Coordinated State level Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding with FCO.***
- ❑ ***Discussed the Public Assistance process with Delegate Phillips and other Russell County officials.***

Signed, Brett Burdick, DSCO

Authority of Michael M. Cline, State Coordinator  
/s/ Brett A. Burdick, Deputy State Coordinating Officer

INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE-DAILY STATUS REPORT  
FEMA DR-1525VA  
*July 8, 2004*

COB: *07-07-04*

TOTAL REGISTRATIONS	<b>817</b>			
DAILY REGISTRATION	<b>18</b>		DAILY	CUM
		DESIGNATED COUNTIES	<b>18</b>	<b>792</b>
		UNDESIGNATED COUNTIES	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>

INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS PROGRAM (IHP) OVERVIEW

Eligibility Rate	<b>89%</b>	Payments Apprv'd	<b>\$987,982.81</b>
Registrations Referred	<b>701</b>	Payments Disb'd	<b>\$876,194.37</b>
Registrations Approved	<b>509</b>		
Registrations Ineligible	<b>114</b>		
Registrations Withdrawn	<b>18</b>		
Registrations Pending	<b>60</b>	IHP Max Awards	<b>35</b>

HOUSING ASSISTANCE (HA)

Eligibility Rate	<b>90%</b>
\$ Amount Apvd	<b>\$903,030.66</b>
\$ Amount Disbursed	<b>\$876,194.37</b>
Referrals	<b>691</b>
Approved	<b>499</b>
Ineligible	<b>119</b>
Withdrawn	<b>18</b>
Pending HA Categories	<b>55</b>

OTHER NEEDS ASSISTANCE (ONA)

Eligibility Rate	<b>18%</b>
\$ Amount Apvd	<b>\$84,952.15</b>
\$ Amount Disbursed	<b>\$0.00</b>
Referrals	<b>258</b>
Approved	<b>32</b>
Ineligible	<b>77</b>
Withdrawn	<b>5</b>
Pending ONA Categories	<b>144</b>

INSPECTION SERVICES (IS)

Inspections Issued	<b>712</b>
Returned to FEMA	<b>688</b>
Outstanding	<b>24</b>
Inspectors in the Field	<b>3</b>
Turnaround Time	<b>01.11.45</b>
QC Inspections	<b>34</b>
% Of Inspections Completed	<b>97%</b>

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA)

Home App. Issued	<b>396</b>
Business App. Issued	<b>67</b>
EIDL	<b>0</b>
Total App. Issued	<b>463</b>
Approved	<b>11</b>
Pending	<b>26</b>
Total \$ Approved	<b>\$200,200</b>

DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS		OPEN	CLOSED	TODAY	CUMULATIVE
TAZEWELL (RICHLANDS)	FIXED	6/21/2004	<b><i>7//10/04</i></b>	<b><i>19</i></b>	<b><i>305</i></b>
TOTAL				<b><i>19</i></b>	<b><i>305</i></b>

DESIGNATED COUNTIES	DAILY	CUMULATIVE
BUCHANAN (COUNTY)	<b><i>2</i></b>	<b><i>90</i></b>
LEE (COUNTY)	<b><i>1</i></b>	<b><i>91</i></b>
RUSSELL (COUNTY)	<b><i>7</i></b>	<b><i>301</i></b>
TAZEWELL (COUNTY)	<b><i>8</i></b>	<b><i>310</i></b>
TOTAL	<b><i>18</i></b>	<b><i>792</i></b>
UNDESIGNATED COUNTIES	DAILY	CUMULATIVE
AUGUSTA (COUNTY)	0	1
<b><i>BEDFORD (COUNTY)</i></b>	<b><i>1</i></b>	<b><i>1</i></b>
DICKENSON (COUNTY)	0	2
DINWIDDIE (COUNTY)	0	1
HANOVER (COUNTY)	0	1
HENRY (COUNTY)	0	1
JEFFERSON (COUNTY)	0	1
PAGE (COUNTY)	0	1
SCOTT (COUNTY)	0	1
SMYTH (COUNTY)	0	1
SOUTHAMPTON (COUNTY)	0	1
WASHINGTON (COUNTY)	0	4
WISE (COUNTY)	0	2
TOTAL	<b><i>1</i></b>	<b><i>18</i></b>